

WHERE SIN DOES ABOUND

Romans 1:17-18

Introduction: In Romans 1:16 Paul sets forth his belief and trust in the gospel of Christ. “**I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.**”

Paul was totally confident in the gospel:

1. Confident because of the *supremacy* of it: It was far superior to any religion or philosophy known on earth.
 - a. Greek Logic
 - b. Roman Law
 - c. Hebrew Law

Paul's day was dominated by these three schools of thought. Each paled in the face of the gospel of Christ.

2. Confident because of the *sufficiency* of it: The world does not need a lot of things it tries to make it better.
 - a. Better system of education
 - b. More social reform
 - c. New ideas in religion

The world needs the gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation.

3. Confident because of the *simplicity* of it: To everyone that believeth.
 - a. To the Jew first
 - b. Also to the Greeks

SUMMATION OF THE GOSPEL:

I. THE GOSPEL REVEALS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

- A. Righteousness means conformity to the right
 1. Righteousness means divine claims on man
 2. Righteousness is:
 - That which God is
 - That which God has
 - That which God gives
- B. Righteousness must live in us: “from faith to faith”
 1. The righteousness of God is received by faith
 2. The righteousness of God is reproduced by faith
- C. Righteousness must live out of us: “The just shall live by faith”
 1. Likeness to God: “just”
 2. Life from God: “live”

II. THE GOSPEL REVEALS THE WRATH OF GOD V. 18

God's wrath is revealed from heaven for three reasons:

- A. Human ungodliness: Sin against God
- B. Human unrighteousness: Sin against man

C. Human unbelief: suppressing the truth of God

Conclusion: Paul introduces himself in these verses. He also introduces his message (the gospel). From this point on the book of Romans expands on the glorious gospel that is brought to us by the Lord Jesus Christ. One thing that Paul emphasizes in this message today is that God hates sin. But, one thing you will see as we traverse this book is that God loves sinners.